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Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box -Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Application Number 00,001 TRANSMITTAL Filing Date July 30, 1993 **FORM** First Named Inventor TRICK (to be used for all correspondence after initial flling) Group Art Unit 2101 N. Tucciuco Examiner Name Total Number of Pages in This Submission **Attorney Docket Number** TRICK ZOI-KGB ENCLOSURES (check all that apply) After Allowance Communication Assignment Papers Fee Transmittel Form (for an Application) Fee Attached Appeal Communication to Board Drawing(s) of Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to Group Amendment / Response Licensing-related Papers (Appeal Natice, Brief, Reply Brief) Petition Routing Slip (PTO/S8/69) and Accompanying Petition After Final Proprietary Information Affidavits/declaration(s) To Convert a Status Letter Provisional Application Power of Attorney, Revocation Additional Enclosure(s) Extension of Time Request Change of Correspondence Address (please identify below). Terminal Disclaimer REQUEST TO Express Abandonment Request Small Entity Statement WITHDRAW Information Disclosure Statement FIMALITY OF LAST Request for Refund OFFICE ACTION Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) Remarks Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT Firm REG. NO. 33,141 Æ. Individual name Signature Date 1-7-98 CERTIFICATE OF MAILING I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mall in an

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RESPONSE AFTER FINAL REJECTION EXPEDITED EXAMINING PROCEDURE- GROUP 2100/ART UNIT 2101

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS

ROBERT T. TRICK

SERIAL NO.

08/100,019

FILED

July 30, 1993

FOR

SEALED PACKAGE OF FILM FOR PRODUCING

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ART UNIT

2101

EXAMINER

N. Tuccillo

January 7, 1998

BOX AF

Hon. Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

REQUEST TO WITHDRAW FINALITY OF LAST OFFICE ACTION

SIR:

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner please reconsider and withdraw the finality of the Office Action dated October 21, 1997. In this regard, Applicant believes that the final rejection is premature for the reasons given below.

Specifically, MPEP § 706.07(a) provides:

"Under present practice, second or any subsequent actions on the

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merits shall be final, except where the examiner introduces a new ground of rejection that is neither necessitated by applicant's amendment of the claims nor based on information submitted in an information disclosure statement filed during the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.97(c) with the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p). [Emphasis added.]"

Although the final rejection ends with the statement that Applicant's amendment of July 1, 1997, necessitated the new grounds of rejection in the final rejection, the fact is that it did not. Therefore, the final rejection should have been issued as a non-final action, and Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the finality of that Office Action.

Further on this point, claim 7 was <u>not</u> amended in the amendment of July 1, 1997, but is rejected for the first time under 35 USC § 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter not supported by an enabling disclosure. It is true that claim 7 is dependent on claim 1, and claim 1 <u>was</u> amended. However, the rejection clearly did not arise from any amendments made to claim 1 since claim 1 was not rejected. Further, this is also clear from the body of the rejection, which pertains to the claimed feature of the second exposed portion in the package being developed, which is a feature that is <u>not</u> in claim 1, but has been in claim 7 since its original filing. Respectfully, there is no possible way that Applicant's amendment of July 1, 1997, necessitated the new ground of rejection against claim 7.

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Further, Applicant's amendment also did not necessitate the new prior art rejections. These rejections would have been equally applicable to the previous claims and, therefore, obviously did not arise out of necessity because of Applicant's amendment. Applicant's amendment only removed statements of intended use, which the Examiner wasn't giving any weight any way. Those amendments did not substantively change the scope of the amended claims in any significant respect. Accordingly, there also is no possible way that Applicant's amendment of July 1, 1997, necessitated the new prior art rejections.

Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

SPRUNG KRAMER SCHAEFER & BRISCOE

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Group Art Unit 2101

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Docket No.: TRICK 201-KGB

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